post-war scenario. The Medium Term Export Strategy has identified Afghanistan as a strategic trade partner for India.

WTO agreement on agriculture

2391. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have put up proposals for inclusion of Natural Rubber, Coir and Jute as agricultural commodities under WTO Agreement on Agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what efforts arc being made to persuade WTO for an early decision in the matter with the help of other rubber producing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) India in its initial negotiating proposals filed in January 2001 in World Trade Organisation (WTO) has proposed rationalization of product coverage of agreement on agriculture to include agricultural commodities such as rubber, jute and coir. The negotiations on WTO agreement on agriculture arc still going on and the final outcome in this regard will known only after the conclusion of these negotiations.

Export of agricultural products

2392. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of agricultural products has increased in 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of targets fixed for the current year and the likely achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): . (a) and (b) Agricultural exports (including marine, tea, coffee, cotton and castor oil) for the last two years is as given below:

Year	Value (Rs. Crores)
1999-2000	24301
2000-2001	27422

(c) International trade in agricultural commodities, being a function of various domestic and international factors, projections of performance are made based on past trends. These arc in the nature of estimates.

Promotion of Organic Tea

2393. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tea exports have been declining for quite some time;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have launched a new promotion of organic tea; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the targets fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The export of tea from India registered an increase in terms of quantity in 2000-2001 compared to exports in 1999-2000, the value realization however, had declined in 2000-2001. During 2001-2002